To the Church & Society in Southington

Brethren & Beloved

He who is King in Zion, having put it into your hearts earnestly to deſire the reſettlement of the Goſpel Miniſtry among you — having in the courſe of his Providence cauſd a remarkable union to take place — & having alſo cauſd; that this union ſhould centre upon me as its object — I have thought it my Duty to take your Call into ſerious & careful conſideration. — Notwithſtanding my own unworthineſs & the great importance of the undertaking, relying on the ſad & aſsiſtance of him, whose Grace I humbly hope will be ſufficient for me, I had determined in early life to ſpend & be ſpent in the ſervice of my Maſter, in the Character of a Miniſter — being ſent for by you therefore I made no heſitation in coming unto you. — I have laboured with you for ſeveral Months in

which

which time you have had opportunity to become ac-
quainted with my manner of life & preaching — As
a people you have ever appear'd diſpos'd to lend me
an attentive ear while explaining the great things
of the Kingdom; & now in a deliberate manner have
kindly deſir'd me to take the immediate charge & over-
ſight of you as a Church & People — You have fur-
ther also evidenc'd the ſincerity of your deſires & affection
by engaging, according to Goſpel rule, to furniſh me
with an handſome & generous ſubſiſtence during my con-
tinuance with you in the important Work. — From
ſuch favorable beginnings I have been induced to hope for
happy conſequences — Having taken the matter into
ſerious conſideration, & having endeavourd to make use
of every proper help for rightly determining my Judg-
ment, I do now therefore ſignify my acceptance of
your Call, relying upon you for every proper encourage-
ment, & promiſing by divine aſſiſtance to be a ſteady
faithful

faithful Pastor to your Souls. — I have said "*I do now signify my acceptance of your Call*" — upon this give me leave to observe, that altho' there has been nothing in your conduct, wch gives me the least ground to suspect your sincerity, yet when I observe the manner in wch the best, the most faithful & respectable Ministers in the Country are treated at the present day, I feel myself necessitated to proceed with the utmost care & circumspection — I feel myself necessitated to bear public testimony against the gross fraud wch is now almost universally practiced in the payment of Salaries; & to assure you, that as I mean to devote my life to your service, I shall depend upon your *punctually* complying at all times with the full Spirit & intention of your

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Propoſals — While this is the Case (& I flatter myſelf it will always be ſo) you may rest aſsured that the main Object of my attention ſhall be the Int.t of your precious & immortal Souls —— And that Grace & Mercy may ſo abound among us as that your Minister may come ~~to~~ to you in the ſpirit of his Master, in the fulneſs of the bleſsing of the Goſpel of Peace; & that you by your Christian conduct may encourage his heart & ſtrengthen his hands in the performance of his work is the ſincere deſire & prayer to God of him who ſubſcribes himſelf your Friend & Servant in the Lord

Southington Nov.r 15th 1779

William Robinson

My Answer to
Southington
Nov. 15. 1779